

**REMARKS**

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated July 1, 2004.

Applicant has amended the claims to overcome the Examiner's objections. Claims 1-5 and 7-10 have been amended. Claims 11-15 have been added. No new matter has been inserted. Claims 1-15 remain pending in the application. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections and offers the foregoing amendments in support thereof.

Independent claims 1 and 8 have been amended to claim an inflatable member having a plurality of independent inflatable tube segments and replaceable threads attached to the tire casing.

This unique combination is not shown in the cited references nor is it obvious to combine the references as suggested by the Examiner. Given the potential dangers of a malfunctioning tire, Applicant respectfully submits that one having ordinary skill in the art would not pick and choose portions from several different patent references to make a tire assembly as suggested by the Examiner's combination of numerous patents for the current rejection of the claims.

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of the claims.

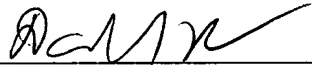
In view of the above amendments Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's Section 102 and Section 103 rejections be withdrawn.

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Applicant has completely responded to the July 1, 2004 Office Action. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Any additional charges, including Extensions of Time, please bill our Deposit Account No. 503180.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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